

Message Text

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53

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-02 PA-01

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 OMB-01

EUR-10 IO-03 ACDA-10 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /074 W

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R 050529 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1712

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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LIMDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS USINT CAIRO

BEIRUT POUCH TO BAGHDAD

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, IR

SUBJECT: PRESS HIGHLIGHTS SISCO' S RECENT REMARKS ON IRAN

AND PERSIAN GULF

1. IRANIAN PRESS FOR MARCH 31 FRONT- PAGED ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO' S REMARKS ON MIDDLE EAST MADE MARCH 30 BEFORE EDITORS AND BROADCASTERS AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT. STORIES FEATURED, " SISCO PRAISES MONARCH" (TEHRAN JOURNAL) AND " STRONG IRAN IMPORTANT FOR STABILITY -- US" (KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL). ARTICLES DATED WASHINGTON, LEAD OFF WITH STATEMENT THAT SISCO PRAISED IRAN AND THE ENLIGHTENED LEADERSHIP OF THE SHA-HANSHAH. HIS REMARKS ON THE PERSIAN GULF WERE ALSO FEATURED WITH SUCH QUOTES AS " A STRONG IRAN IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF STABILITY IN THE PERSIAN GULF AREA", THE PERSIAN GULF IS " OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE FOR THE UNITED STATES" AND " WE HAVE TRIED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STIMULATE REGIONAL COOPERATION FOCUSED ON IRAN AMB SAUDI ARABIA". ADDITIONALLY PRESS ARTICLES, ALTHOUGH SHORT, TOUCHED ON SISCO' S

DISCUSSION OF THE ARAB- ISRAEL PROBLEM.

2. NEWSPAPERS QUOTED SISCO AS SAYING THE US WOULD HAVE BEEN HAPPIER IF THE BRITISH, WHICH REPRESENTED A SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT OF STABILITY, HAD REMAINED IN THE PERSIAN GULF AREA INSTEAD OF PULLING OUT THEIR TOKEN MILITARY FORCES IN 1971. SEMI-OFFICIAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL COMMENTING ON THIS STATEMENT IN EDITORIAL APRIL 1 SAID IT REPRESENTS A MISREADING OF THE SITUATION, SINCE FOLLOWING DEPARTURE OF THE BRITISH THE NEWLY INDEPENDENT STATES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN THEIR STABILITY AND PEACE. POINTING TO OMAN AS PLACE WHERE BRITISH PRESENCE STILL EXISTS, EDITORIAL STATES THIS HAS NOT ENSURED COMPLETE PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE KINGDOM. EDITORIAL CLOSES POSTULATING THAT THE REGION'S PEACE AND STABILITY OUGHT TO BE ENSURED BY THE LITTORAL STATES AND ANY OUTSIDE PRESENCE WOULD BE INIMICAL TO THAT CAUSE.

3. COMMENT: SISCO'S COMMENTS ON IRAN'S ROLE IN GULF, COMING AT TIME WHEN IRAQ AND SOVIETS APPEAR TO BE STEPPING UP THEIR ACTIVITIES IN GULF, HAVE BEEN WELL RECEIVED HERE.
EHLNY

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

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30 JUN 2005

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